

Geneva, 25 October 2023

Mr. Gilbert F. Hougbo  
Director-General  
International Labour Organization (ILO)  
4, route des Morillons, CH-1211 Genève 22, Switzerland  
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## Request for your urgent intervention

Dear Mr. Director-General,

I am writing to you as the General Secretary of [IndustriALL Global Union](https://www.industrialall-union.org), representing over 50 million workers in the mining, energy, and manufacturing industries in 141 countries, including Kyrgyzstan. Please consider this new letter as an update to Complaint 3386, and to the information provided to the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.

Following to our letter to you from yesterday in which we expressed grave concern about the interference of the Government of Kyrgyzstan in trade unions affairs and its plan to liquidate the independent trade unions, the situation is worsening fast. We are therefore obliged to share with a new update in the situation and we reiterate our call to you to intervene immediately before the Government of Kyrgyzstan to put an immediate end to these blatant violations of fundamental labour rights.

As we feared, officers from the State Committee for National Security (GKNB - State Committee for National Security - an analogue of the KGB) went, earlier this week, to all the central committees of trade unions in Kyrgyzstan.

According to information we have just received, they demanded all the financial documents of the trade union for the last 10 years. The seizure of trade union documents is illegal since it contradicts the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan and the ILO conventions ratified by Kyrgyzstan. The GKNB officer stated that they are obliged to seize all documents based on a criminal case initiated against the Federation of Trade Unions of Kyrgyzstan.

Trade unions learned that an official document has been drafted, stating that:

- The Federation of Trade Unions of Kyrgyzstan must transfer all property to the management of the Presidential Administration;

- Stop transferring funds from the Workers' Health Fund to trade unions (mainly spent on vouchers to sanatoriums) and use it to restore sanatoriums.
- Carry out a one-time replacement of all the chairs of the Federation, sectoral trade unions and trade union organizations at enterprise level.

The government of Kyrgyzstan needs to uphold its commitments and fully respect trade union and workers' rights. Free, independent unions are cornerstones of a functioning society and as global unions we will voice our opposition and use our leverage to defend fundamental workers' rights.

I look forward to your immediate action and reply.

Yours sincerely,



Atle Høie  
General Secretary